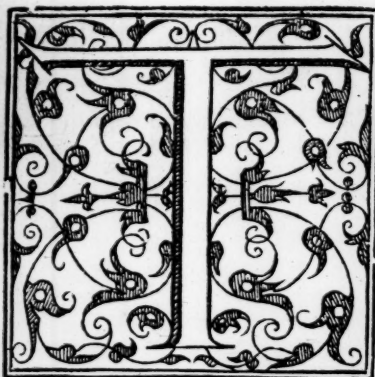


By the Quene

67



THE Quenes Maiestie consydering the returne of no small numbers of her faythfull Subiectes, hauing truely and valiauntly serued at New-hauen, and beyng many of the same sicke, or touched with infection of such sickenes as reigned there: hath thought meete, because the same numbers shall returne to sundry places of her Realme, beyng clere from such contagious sickenesse, to wyll and require her sayd Capteynes and souldiours, and euery of them, to haue charitable and neyghbourly regarde to the preservation of theyr neyghbours from infection, and to forbear for some season to be conuersaunt with any mo then of meere necessitie they ought. And for such souldiers as be pooze, and haue any contagious sicknes vpon them, beyng no otherwyse prouided for, her Maiestie earnestly requireth, and in Gods name chargeth, the principall officers, aswell Ecclesiasticall as Ciuill, of all Cities, Townes, and Paryshes, where the same pooze sicke souldiours shall of necessitie come, to prouide some remote places, where the same pooze and sicke persons may be seperated from conuersation with other beyng whole, and haue reliefe by common prouision and almes to be ministred and geuen by the ryche, which besyde that christian charitie requireth it, the same is also requisite and expedient to be done by them whiche be whole and ryche, for theyr owne preservation: for otherwyse, they may feele the sharpe hande of God ouer them for theyr vnnmercifulnes.

And because no persons shoulde of malice or ignoratunce, haue any mislykynge of such faythfull capteynes and souldiours, as shall returne to theyr countreys and habitations, because the Towne where they were in garryson, is left by composition to the frenche kyng, as it was alwayes so intended, vpon reasonable conditions: It is to be knowen and vnderstand, that there wanted no trueth, courage, nor manhood in any one of the sayde garryson, from the hyghest to the lowest, who were fully, yea rather as it were obstinately, determined with one full assent, to haue abydden the whole force of fraunce and theyr helpers, to the vttermost of theyr lyues. But when it pleased almyghtie God, agaynst whose wyll there is no standyng, to permit the sayde garryson to be visited with so great and incessable plague of infectuous mortall sickenesse, as heretofore great noble armies haue ben, and therby forced to yelde and decline from theyr enterpryses: It was thought the part and office of Christian wysdome, not to tempte the Almighty, nor to contende with the ineuitable inwarde mortall enemye of plague, assaying all sortes, aswell the strongest as the weakest, the armed as vnarmed, the captaynes as the labourer, neyther repulsable by weapon, shot, nor ingin, and therefore ioyning therewith the enemies offers, not vnreasonable, proceeding of the opinion which they had conceaued by the sundry ouerthrowes geuen to them by the Capteynes and souldiours of the garryson, that they shoulde neuer gette the Towne without great effusion of bloud on both partes, wherof they had lamentable losse for theyr parte this last yere, in theyr cyuill tumultes, more then in any warres, as it is esteemed .vii. yeres before. The Quenes Maiestie being aduertised that the Constable of fraunce had by messages sollicitated the Earle of warwyke, her Maiesties lieutenannt, a Captayne right nobly renowned, to come to some communication, for the deliuey of the sayde Towne, with honorable conditions, whereby Christian bloud myght be saued on bothe partes, quietnes & peace might the rather solowe betwixt both the Realmes: was contented that the sayde Earle and the counsell of that Towne, should not thus lamentably contende and stryue any longer with the plague, with the which they had nowe for the space of .v. or .vi. monethes continually fought, leesyng dayly more and more great numbers thereby: but should (consydering he and his company had so nobly acquitted them selues) accorde to common with the sayd Constable, and hearyng his conditions to be (as they were reported) honorable, (which were, a free & quiet departure in conuenient tyme for the sayde Lieutenannt, Capteynes, souldiours, and people, with

Quenes Maiestie being aduertised that the Constable of Fraunce had by messages solicited the Earle of Marwyke, her Maiesties lieutenannt, a Captayne right nobly renowned, to come to some communication, for the deliury of the sayde Towne, with honorable conditions, whereby Christian bloud myght be saued on bothe partes, quietnes & peace might the rather solowe betwixt both the Realmes: was contented that the sayde Earle and the counsell of that Towne, should not thus lamentably contende and stryue any longer with the plague, with the which they had nowe for the space of .v. or .vi. monethes continually fought, leesyng dayly more and more great numbers therby: but should (consideryng he and his company had so nobly acquitted them selues) accorde to common with the sayd Constable, and hearyng his conditions to be (as they were reported) honorable, (which were, a free & quiet departure in conuenient tyme for the sayde Lieutenannt, Capteynes, souldiours, and people, with

all theyr artyllery, munitions, wyppes, besselles, bittell, armure, weapon, and goodes, any wyse belonging to her Maiestie, or to any Englyshe person) the said Lieutenannt should accorde therunto.

Wherupon the said Lieutenannt beyng with all the whole garrison (of theyr owne disposition) of a contrary determination, rather to hazarde the rest of theyr liues with the plague, and with the assaultes of the enemy, whereof they had abidden and repulsed some, then to leaue the Towne by treatie, consulting with the counsell and Captaynes there, and consideryng her Maiesties princely mynde and intention towarde the preservation of her subiectes, wherof he had charge, beyng in dede manifestly and inuitably subiect still both to the plague, and to the enemyes approche, by the whiche they had possessed the entry of the haven, and made sundry Bulwarkes by large breaches saltable, and were entred into the ditches: was contented at length, to set apart theyr owne great stomakes, and by enclinyng to wysdome, to open theyr eares to the Constables motions and offers. And so by treatie and honorable compact, accorded to deliuer the Towne to the frenche king, after the space of eyght dayes, or more, yf tyme so required, wherein he myght honorably, safely, freely, and warlykely retire by Sea the whole garrison vnder his charge, with all maner of ryches, artyllery, munition, & other thinges belongyng to any Englyshe person. For the doying wherof, beyng hym selfe hurt in the thygh with a shot at a breache, he committed the principall charge therof to sir Hugh Pawlet, sir Maurice Denis, knyghtes, and the knyght Marshall maister Randolph, who at this present are therein occupied.

And this is the trueth of the iust and necessary cause of returne of the sayd Lieutenannt, Capteynes, and garrison: Such a cause as hath constrayned both Heathen and Christian Emperours, to do the lyke, or sometymes thynges of lesse aduantage to them selues. And therefore the courrages and actiuities of the sayde garrison, hauyng ben such, as the enemies haue not let by many meanes to recommende beyonde theyr accustomed maner: And sythen it can not be denyed, but that the plage in the Towne hath herein brought that to passe, that by mans force was eyther not possible, or otherwise not lykely: Her Maiestie doubteth not, but all these her true, good, and valiaunt subiectes, hauyng thus serued, and nowe returnyng to theyr habitations, shall fynde at this tyme (as they haue well merited) fauour, helpe, and charitable succour, accordyng to theyr estates, and hereafter honor, loue, and prayse of theyr countrey, whylest they lyue.

Given at Richemond the fyrst day of August, the fyfth yere of her Maiesties reigne.

God saue the Quene.

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Cum privilegio Regie Maiestatis.